

S824.01.1 Village
Voice

CIA 8175C - Report

Executive Bid To Derail CIA Spy Probe Cited

NEW YORK (UPI) — The Village Voice has published what it called another part of the House Select Committee on Intelligence report, in which the committee said that the Executive Branch always promised cooperation but "the reality was delay, refusal, missing information, asserted privileges, and on and on."

Last week the Voice published the middle segment of the report. Yesterday's report was said to be part one. Part three, recommendations, has not been written.

"If this committee's recent experience is any test," the opening paragraph states, "intelligence agencies that are to be controlled by congressional lawmakers are, today, beyond the lawmaker's scrutiny."

THE REPORT said that despite promises of cooperation by various agencies "most document access was preceded by lengthy negotiations. Almost without exception, these negotiations yielded something less than complete or timely access."

Committee Chairman Otis Pike, D-N.Y., complained of the "dribble treatment," whereby documents were sent piecemeal over a period of several weeks. The report called this a "particularly subtle impediment" since it gave the executive branch "an opportunity to deny that it was withholding information while . . . delaying the committee's work."

The report said that subpoenas and "a determined threat of contempt proceed-

ings brought grudging results."

IT SAID that it received "sanitized" information and called that "merely a euphemism for blank sheets of paper with a few scattered words left in, often illegible, sometimes misleading, and usually inconclusive."

After that, the report said, "the President, or someone using his name, cut off the committee from all classified information."

It also said it was refused information about the Strategic Arms Limitation talks already given to the Soviet Union.

A report on any CIA wrongdoing had a blank page with the message, "This information deleted because it reveals sensitive operational techniques and methods." The full report showed it was a Jack Anderson column.

THE REPORT concluded that the executive branch can manipulate news "by declassifying information that can be used to justify policy while maintaining classification of information that may lead to contrary conclusions."

Also, it said, the American people did not know what foreign governments knew.

"(Cuban leader Fidel) Castro well knew of the assassination attempts, the Cambodians knew they were being bombed, but the American people, whose government was engaging in these practices, were not aware of these activities because of the classification system."